

## Liners Are Again For Sale Today

Closed, By Chairman When But One Bid is Forthcoming.

OFFERS TOTAL \$21,850,000

Washington, Feb. 17.—Contrary to expectation, only one bid for any of the 30 former German liners was received today when the Shipping Board auction to receive competitive offers was resumed with the ships offered one at a time. A bid of \$550,000 for the *Osego* by E. J. Roberts, Acme Operating Corporation, New York, was the only one made for the 19 steamers offered. Commissioner Scott then asked if there was any desire to bid further on groups of vessels and closed the auction when no offers were forthcoming.

The largest ships of the fleet, including the *Leviathan*, *Azarnon*, and *George Washington*, were among those offered individually without attracting offers.

Commissioner Scott again informed bidders that all offers, whether received at the auction or previously, would be submitted to Congress before the board took action even if the injunction proceedings in the District of Columbia courts did not interfere with the sale.

In addition to the three big ships named, the *Mount Vernon*, *Von Steuben*, *Martha Washington*, *America*, *DeKalb*, *Admiral*, *Huron*, *Moccasin*, *Mercury*, *Powhatan*, *Orion*, *President Grant*, *Nansemund*, *Philippines*, *Wyndotte* and the *Freedom* were offered individually without any bidders.

According to shipping board calculation, the best offers received yesterday represented a total of \$21,850,000, which includes \$13,100,000 offered for six vessels by the International Mercantile Marine and a total of \$8,750,000 for nine ships individually.

## U. S. COLLEGES RAISING LARGE ENDOWMENT FUND

Quarter Billion Being Subscribed Throughout the United States.

American universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning are engaged in raising additional endowment amounting to more than a quarter of a billion dollars, according to a statement made by Eliot Wadsworth, chairman of the Harvard Endowment Fund, in the Harvard "Graduate" Magazine.

Mr. Wadsworth has gone to Europe to attend the first congress of the League of Red Cross societies in Geneva as one of five American delegates. He was a former vice-chairman of the American Red Cross, and because of his work in that organization he recently received the Distinguished Service Medal awarded by the President.

"The fact that individuals had any definite responsibility to the maintenance of our educational machinery was hardly recognized," says Mr. Wadsworth. "Citizens voted once a year for members of the school board, college alumni voted for management for alumni directors and members of the governing board. This, to a large extent, was the measure of our interest and thought."

Continuing Mr. Wadsworth says: "With constantly increasing emphasis the fact has been borne in upon educated men and women that the schools and colleges needed their individual attention. We began to realize that our whole educational system was in danger of deterioration, or even disaster."

"Hundreds of institutions have been brought to a realization of the seriousness of their financial conditions by the rising costs of 1919, with the result that they have been instituting special elections to raise additional funds. Special elections have been held; taxes have been levied to meet this universal cry from a hardpressed profession."

"Together with the growing sense of danger threatening our institutions, there has come a constantly growing cry for more education. More and better education for the masses; a higher and broader intellectual development of the college students, has been advocated in no uncertain terms. No political speech is complete without its mention of our needs for better Americanization — which means, as a fundamental, better education. No discussion of the industrial problems which confront the country fails to bring forth the need of a better understanding between employer and employee. Many methods for bringing this about are suggested, nearly every one of which involves more education."

"And so, side by side have arisen these two great changes in public sentiment: First, a sense of responsibility among individuals for the support of the educator and the upholding of the standard of education; second, the realization of the enormous importance of universal and proper education in the future development of America."

Mr. Wadsworth lays stress upon the practical support given by the late Henry C. Frick who "wrote in his will a testimonial to his opinion of the value and importance of our institution of higher learning."

Mr. Rockefeller he says, "has expressed, in no uncertain terms, his feelings as to the importance of higher education to this country by his gift of \$50,000,000 for distribution among colleges of the country."

## ALLIED COUNCIL HAS FINISHED ITS REPLY TO PRESIDENT'S NOTE

### ADMIRAL BENSON IS SELECTED TO SUCCEED PAYNE

Will Take Place When Pressing Matters Are Settled Up

Washington, Feb. 17.—Rear Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations during the war, and now on the retired list, has been selected by President Wilson to succeed John Barton Payne as a member of the Shipping Board.

Admiral Benson's nomination will not be sent to the senate until Chairman Payne winds up several pressing matters now before the board before taking over the office of Secretary of the Interior in succession to Franklin K. Lane, whose resignation is effective March 1. It was said at the White House that this probably would take about a month.

## PRESIDENT CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

No Truth In Report Specialist Had Been Called

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Wilson continues to show improvement and was up early today, shaving himself and going about his usual routine. Rear Admiral Grayson, his physician, said, Dr. Grayson's statement was prompted by published reports that the President had a relapse last night and that Dr. Francis X. Dercum, a Philadelphia specialist, had been hurriedly summoned to the White House for a midnight conference.

Dr. Grayson said he had not been in communication with Dr. Dercum since Saturday, when the latter visited the White House and found the President making steady progress. The President's cabinet probably will not meet this week, Dr. Grayson said, but he added that if the President desired to call one his physician would not object.

## GETS DIVORCE AS HUSBAND WAS BIGAMIST

Reed Married Again Two Years After First Venture.

On the ground that her husband was a bigamist, May Reed of New York was granted a divorce from Joseph Reed of this city by Judge Banks in the Superior court this morning. The plaintiff said she married Reed in 1913 but they did not get along very well together. He did not drink but was "just lazy," the wife said.

She learned he had been married to Edith Messer in 1915. The marriage took place in New York at the home of Annie Anthony, aunt of the bride. The aunt appeared in court today and testified that she heard Reed already had a wife when he married her niece. She made a complaint to the New York police department and Reed was arrested on a bigamy charge. He was convicted and his marriage to Edith Messer was declared void.

May Reed said that during the short time she lived with Reed he did nothing to support her. He finally deserted her and then, posing as a single man, married Edith Messer.

## WANT TO PUT EDWARDS' NAME ON DEM. BALLOT

Lansing, Mich., Feb. 17.—Petitions to place the name of Governor Edward I. Edwards of New Jersey, on the Democratic ballot in the presidential preference primary April 5, were filed with the secretary of state today.

The petitions lacked the required 100 signatures, but it is understood these will be forwarded before March 1.

## W. F. ROBINSON ILL SHORT TIME DIES AT HOME

Boston, Feb. 17.—Wallace F. Robinson, financier, died at his home here last night, after a brief illness. He was one of the organizers of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation and a director of the Robinson Hall at Dartmouth College. The Robinson Memorial Hospital in this city, and the town hall at South Reading, Vt., where he was born in 1832, were among his public gifts.

He was keenly interested in the organization of commercial interests and was at different times president of the Old Boston Produce Exchange, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and an organizer of the Chicago Chamber of Commerce.

Why claim that the spectators get no physical exercise out of athletics, when they are kicking all the time?

## Will Be Handed To Ambassador Davis Tonight For Transmission—Will Make Public Neither Communication Nor Answer.

London, Feb. 17.—The Allied Supreme Council has completed the draft of its answer to President Wilson's Adriatic memorandum and will hand it to Ambassador Davis tonight for transmission to Washington. The council declined today to make public President Wilson's communication or its reply. It is stated that the publication of the texts will probably be left to the American President.

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Wilson, in his "memorandum" to the Allies concerning their proposed Adriatic settlement, informed them that the United States might have to consider withdrawing the treaty of Versailles from the Senate if the Allies went ahead with their plans without the consent of the United States.

This statement was made officially here today with the further statement that the American position was outlined not in the nature of a threat, but as a statement of a situation created "not by an act of the American government, but by an act of the British, French and Italian premiers," which would place the United States in the position, if it were a party to the treaty of Versailles, of subscribing through the pact to rights to sovereignty and other agreements to which it was opposed.

The treaty of Versailles and the Anglo-Franco-American pact are considered inseparable as far as the question is concerned and if President Wilson should determine to withdraw the treaty of Versailles, it would mean that the American-French pact would be withdrawn at the same time, it was explained.

State Department officials take the position that the French press is endeavoring to set up a cry of "threat" on the part of the American government, to place the blame for the situation which has arisen at America's door "instead of on the acts of the foreign premiers where it belongs."

It was reiterated that on Dec. 9, before Acting Secretary Polk left Paris, the American, British and French representatives had agreed on a settlement of the Adriatic question and it was charged that substantially, without consulting the United States, the Allied premiers sitting at Paris adopted a new agreement which was transmitted to Ambassador Wallace for the approval of the American government.

This it was said, came as a great surprise to the American government, which sent a communication to the premiers asking whether they proposed to settle the question without consulting the American government. The premiers were said to have replied that they did not intend to do so, but later sent an ultimatum to the United States unless it accepted the new settlement. The terms of the original treaty of London would be carried out.

## HUGHES HAS DECLINED TO BE CANDIDATE

Does Not Recognize Obligation to Permit Use of Name.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 17.—Charles E. Hughes has written a letter to County Clerk Frank Dewey, asking him not to proceed with plans to present Mr. Hughes' name in the state primary as a candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency.

"I cordially appreciate your personal interest and friendly sentiment you express," Mr. Hughes letter reads. "I am utterly unwilling, however, to undertake a second candidacy. I am deeply interested in Republican success and anxious that there should be a Republican unit, but there is no lack of available men and I do not recognize any obligation to permit my name to be used. I must, therefore ask you not to bring my name forward."

## REPRESENTATIVES OF PUBLIC UTILITIES HOLD MEETING

Washington, Feb. 17.—Representatives of public utilities associations met here today to oppose before the bituminous coal commission any increase in the price of coal because of the wage increase given the miners, which they said would have to be passed on to the public. The same witnesses will testify later today before the Senate Coal Investigation Committee of which Senator Frelinghuysen is chairman.

## EARL REDDING DECLINES POST

London, Feb. 17.—Premier Lloyd George has offered the ambassadorship at Washington to the Earl of Redding, the former ambassador there, says the Pall Mall Gazette today, but the Earl has declined the appointment.

## HOLLAND TO REPEAT HER FIRST STAND

The Hague, Feb. 17.—Holland will answer the second note sent by the entente with regard to the status of former Emperor William by reiterating her original position, refusing to surrender the ex-Emperor but acquiescing in the request to guard him closely, it was declared here today.

The Dutch answer will be dispatched within a few days.

## DISEASE MORE VIRULENT THAN A WEEK AGO

48 New Cases Reported Today—Total Now 1,670.

Medical and health authorities predicted last week that the peak of the epidemic of influenza had been reached, but according to this morning's figures of 48 new cases, the disease is more virulent than this time last week. The grand total now stands at 1,670.

Physicians turned in Sunday's death toll today and the accumulated report showed seven persons victims of pneumonia and a similar number of "flu." Dr. Brown said this morning that the increase was expected at this time in the upward curve of the malady, but that there had been a big decrease in the spread over the city.

## NOT AFFILIATED WITH REDS IS MAN'S DEFENSE

Kobryn, Taken In Raid January 2, Freed From Charge

Alexander Kobryn of 723 Arctic street, who was taken by the federal officers in their raid of Jan. 2, was released by Emigration Inspector Root yesterday through the efforts of Attorney George Perlo.

Kobryn is the local secretary of the Ukrainian Federation of America, which has its headquarters in Washington, D. C., and had formerly been a member of the Socialist party which was merged into the Communist party of Bridgeport.

It developed at the hearing that Kobryn had withdrawn from the Socialists before they had amalgamated with the Communists but that when he was arrested the red membership card of the Socialist party was found on him.

A large amount of foreign literature which was taken from Kobryn's home at the time he was arrested was returned to him when he was released yesterday.

The hearing was held in the Federal building in Hartford and Inspector Root sat in place of Emigration Inspector Clark, who is laid up with a cold.

Attorney Perlo is in Hartford again today appearing for another of the men who was arrested on the deportation warrants by men from the Department of Justice.

## \$334 PER CAPITA COST OF WAR TO UNITED STATES

Allies Owe Us Each \$88 But We May Never Collect It.

War is a pay-after-it's-over proposition. According to William G. Shepherd, in "The Home Sector," the ex-soldier's magazine conducted by the former editorial council of "The Stars and Stripes," even the next generations of Americans will have the pleasure of growing at a pesky war tax. He says:

"Three hundred and thirty-four dollars apiece for every man, woman and child in the United States is how badly the war bill has settled down on us."

"That seems like a tremendous weight to carry. But, in taking on that burden, we did a thing in the United States that no other country in the world was strong enough or rich enough to do."

"We dug down into our pockets and paid out a third of this cost in actual cash. We dug it out of our banks and our socks and our sugar bowls and turned it over to Uncle Sam with a great war shout."

After he had fought with the A. E. F. in France and had been badly gassed, Joseph M. Moeller of this city returned home to find that his wife had been going out with other men. During his absence abroad Mrs. Moeller lived in Norway and as a result of the many engagements she had with men she became addicted to the use of liquor.

Policeman Wallace Sammis of the Newark police department testified that he assisted in a raid of a hotel where Mrs. Moeller was found with a man not her husband. He said the hotel had a bad reputation.

DESTROYED LEADER OFFICE. Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 17.—Fire of undetermined origin early today destroyed the business office of the Pittsburgh Leader with an estimated loss of \$12,500.

## RAILWAYS ORDERED NOT TO CONFISCATE CONNECTICUT COAL

Shipments Headed For This State Had Been Taken and Diverted to Use of Manufacturing Establishments in Other States.

Hartford, Conn., Feb. 17.—According to advices from Washington received by the Manufacturers' Association of Connecticut today, the Director General of Railroads yesterday issued an order prohibiting railroads in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York from confiscating cars of bituminous coal consigned to Connecticut points.

In the last few days numerous instances have been reported to the association's seizure in these states of coal belonging to Connecticut industrial plants. In one case, it is asserted, the coal thus seized was diverted to the use of a manufacturing establishment in New Jersey.

The association is also advised from Washington that since February 10, 1,700 cars of coal have been delivered in New England railroads via the Hudson River gateway.

Another encouraging development reported from Washington is the statement that in the last three days more than 40,000 tons of bituminous coal have been cleared from Hampton Roads in vessels bound for Boston and Providence. It is anticipated that part of this coal, which should begin to arrive within the next day or two, will be available for points in eastern Connecticut.

C. L. Bardo, general manager of the New Haven road, says the recent storm proved the most severe railroad transportation in Connecticut since the blizzard of 1888.

## CAILLAUX IS PUT ON TRIAL BEFORE SENATE

Has Been In Custody 25 Months—Is Ex-Premier

Paris, Feb. 17.—Joseph Caillaux, former premier of France, was placed on trial today before the senate, sitting as a high court, charged with conspiracy against his country in time of war. The trial opened at 2:40 o'clock p. m. The accused man entered the chamber accompanied by three police officers.

All day long the court was at once taken up. There was a large attendance, very few of the senators being absent.

Caillaux has been in custody twenty-five months and two days. Parliamentary immunity was lifted in his case on December 22, 1917, the prisoner himself asking that this action be taken, as he said he wished to appear before judges and face his accusers. He voiced their opinions of the Connecticut Co. and its management in no uncertain terms.

## SEVERAL CARS DERAILED AT TURKEY BROOK

Derby, Conn., Feb. 17.—Several cars in a freight train north bound from Devon on the Bridgeport-Derby line of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad today, were derailed and smashed when the train took a siding at Turkey Brook, and hit several cars on the siding.

## POINCARÉ BIDS FAREWELL TO HIS CABINET

Paris, Feb. 17.—President Poincaré, who relinquishes his office tomorrow to President-elect Deschanel, said good-bye to the cabinet at its session today. The President thanked the ministers for their co-operation and told his best wishes accompanied them in the weighty tasks they had to accomplish.

Premier Millerand in responding recalled to the president the recent vote of the Parliament attesting the valuable services the executive had rendered his country. To this solemn testimony, M. Millerand said, the government wished to add its expression of gratitude.

## ANNEXATION "IMPOSSIBLE"

Flume, Feb. 17.—Annexation of Flume to Italy is now "impossible," was an admission made to The Associated Press correspondent here today by Captain Gabriele D'Annunzio, whose forces have been holding this city for several months.

CRIMINAL SUPERIOR OPENS. The Criminal Superior Court opened for the February term this afternoon with Judge Curtis on the bench. Lawyers from all over the county were present to confer with State's Attorney Homer S. Cummings. There are 15 Bridgeport cases on the docket but it was not expected that they would be disposed of this afternoon.

According to the usual custom the greater part of the afternoon was spent in putting prisoners to sleep.

## TEACHERS IN SHELTON TO GET INCREASE

Corporation Counsel Declines Ordinance Is Legal.

Shelton, Conn., Feb. 17.—An ordinance adopted by the board of aldermen to make effective an increase in wages granted by the board of education and covered by a sum included in the estimates made by the board of apportionment, was declared to be legally adopted by Corporation Counsel Joseph Shapiro, in an opinion filed with Mayor Francis I. Nettleton today. The legality of the raise in salaries had not been questioned but the corporation counsel, as is customary, examined the proposed change and gave an opinion thereon.

With the opinion upholding the salary increase checks were mailed to Shelton teachers today with the salaries figured on the new basis. The increase will amount to \$845 yearly for each teacher. There is nothing in the city charter, nor in the teachers' contracts which, in the opinion of Mr. Shapiro, could conflict with the action of the city bodies in fixing the increase.

## YEOMANETTE GIVEN DIVORCE ON DESERTION

Husband Absolutely Refused to Provide Home.

Juliana Resler of this city a yeomanette in the U. S. Navy, was given a divorce from Abram Resler, by Judge Banks in the Superior court this morning after she had testified that her husband deserted her while they were visiting relatives in Roanoke, Va. The wife said she and Resler had a dispute about money matters the night before the desertion, which took place September 13, 1915.

Mrs. Resler declared her husband did not support her properly and she remonstrated with him. She wanted him to furnish a home but he replied that she ought to be satisfied with things as they were. The next morning Resler left the house and did not return. The wife remained at the relatives' homes for two weeks, expecting Resler would come back but he did not.

Then she returned to this city and enlisted in the Navy when this country entered the war. She is an expert bookkeeper. She testified that she married Resler October 29, 1911.

## PEOPLE FREEZE WHILE CAR IS BEING FIXED

The Connecticut Co. gave another example of its well known policy last night, when it kept the crowd from Devon and Milford who had attended the theaters waiting from 10:30 to ten minutes to 12 before sending a car along the line.

One of its cars which needed repairs was stopped on Water street about a block from the car barns and the repairs were made while the car was being towed to the car barns. At ten minutes of 12 the management saw fit to send a car around the old route along Main street and down Congress street which picked up the half frozen passengers who voiced their opinions of the Connecticut Co. and its management in no uncertain terms.

## WILSON WORKS ON ANSWER TO SENATE RESOLVE

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Wilson is working on his answer to the Senate resolution asking as to an alleged secret agreement between the shipping board and Great Britain for the final disposition of former German passenger liners. It was said the reply would convey an emphatic denial and Secretary Tammully conferred with Acting Secretary Polk today concerning its form.

## COULD NOT FIND WOMAN CASE POSTPONED

As Attorney Daniel E. Brennan declared he has been unable to locate Margaret Gray no action was taken by Judge Banks of the Superior court today in the divorce suit in which charges of spite were made last week by lawyers. Attorney Brennan stated that he would make another effort to find the woman before tomorrow as he had just received information that she was employed at the Columbia Graphophone Co. plant. The court continued the case until tomorrow.

Washington, Feb. 17.—All war time restrictions on international radio communication in the United States were removed effective February 23 under an executive signed today by President Wilson.

DERIVING ON TREATY. Washington, Feb. 17.—Debate on the treaty of Versailles, resumed in the Senate yesterday with the opposing sides apparently as far from agreement as last November, when discussion gave way to legislative business, was expected to occupy practically all of today's session also.

## Important Decision By Council

Will Internationalize Dardanelles, Famous Waterway.

## TURKEY KEEPS CONSTANTINOPLE

London, Feb. 17.—The internationalization of the Dardanelles, which had been foreseen, was decided upon definitely by the Allied supreme council today. The details of the control of the straits, however, have not been worked out.

Great Britain, it was learned, had instructed Admiral DeRoebek at Constantinople to announce the fact that the Allies have decided not to deprive Turkey of Constantinople. If the persecution of the Armenians continues, however, the admiral was instructed to say, the peace treaty with Turkey may be considerably modified. The fact that continued possession of Constantinople had been granted her should not be misinterpreted by Turkey, the British representative directed to inform the Turkish government in plain words. It did not mean, he was told to say, that the allies would deal leniently with Turkey should the recently reported atrocities continue.

The allied supreme council today considered the latest reports of massacres of Armenians. Note was taken of the fact that the reports of the most part emanated from Armenian sources.

Admiral DeRoebek will point out to the Turks that they must show an inclination to conduct themselves properly or be subjected to a peace more severe than the council now is disposed to arrange.

## WEATHER MAN PREDICTS SNOW AND WARMER

Southwest Wind Ties Up Shipping On the Sound

Indications today from weather bureaus in the East were that Bridgeport and the vicinity although facing possible snow would in all probability experience some warmer weather, the predicted snow probably turning to rain before many hours.

"Snow and warmer" given out by the New York weather bureau does not agree in entirety with reports from other stations where it is stated that snow is probable but the "warmer" part virtually certain.

The southwest wind of today has tied up most of the shipping on the Sound. There are several tows consisting of about 20 barges at Perth Amboy and Newtown Creek waiting for favorable weather.

The tug James McWilliams has brought her tow into City Island and the southwest wind has driven the ice in on them and unless there is a thaw will be held in the ice for some time.

The tug James McWilliams and George McCaffery are in the harbor with loaded barges bound east but are afraid to venture out until the wind changes as all the ice in the Sound is being driven on the Connecticut shore and the captains of the tugs are afraid that the drift would force their tows on the shore.

## BOLSHEVIKI ARE IMPROVING THEIR POSITIONS

Paris, Feb. 17.—Bolshevik military leaders are taking advantage of the cold clear weather to improve their positions along the Polish battlefield, according to advices received here. The principal point of concentration on the northern front is near Smolensk, where a crack division arrived recently after a month's rest. In two other districts—near Gomel, in the center of the line, and not far from Kiev, farther south—the Soviet troops are utilizing main line railroads extending to the interior of Russia.

Direct communication between Smolensk, Gomel and Kiev is impossible, says the press, and the presence of Bolshevik front, and military authorities who have come recently from Poland are unable to say whether the Reds will remain at their concentration points or be disbanded for early spring drive which has been predicted in the event of failure to open peace negotiations with Poland. One of the best Bolshevik divisions is reported to have arrived at Smolensk in addition to the troops brought from rest camps, and several other divisions have been shifted to that district during the last few weeks.

## ALLIES CLAIM FREIGHTS EARNED BY GERMAN SHIPS

Hamburg, Germany, Feb. 17.—The Fremdenblatt says today that the new Allied note to Germany which regards to her mercantile marine contends that under the peace treaty the ships which are still to be surrendered to the entente powers have been their property from the date on which the treaty came into force. Therefore, the Allies declare, the freight earned between Jan. 10 and March 10 are payable to the entente.

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